

## CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

Colchester, Connecticut

Town Hall Meeting Room 3

February 25, 2015

Meeting Minutes

Members present: Gregg LePage, Gary Siddell, Ursula Tschinkel. Monica Egan and Betty Wagner

Guest: First Selectman Stan Soby and for part of the meeting, Steven Schuster

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman LePage.

There was one addition to the agenda: Add Registrars of Voters at 4.1.

Approval of the minutes of the February 11, 2015 meeting: motion to approve by G. Siddell, second by B. Wagner. Minutes were approved with B. Wagner and M. Egan abstaining because they had not attended the meeting.

#### 4. Citizen Comments: none.

**4.1, Registrars of Voters.** Ms. Tschinkel distributed an article entitled "SOTS Merrill: Connecticut Must Overhaul Elections System." The commission members will review it for future discussion. B. Wagner commented that the Registrars in Colchester ran a perfect election.

**5. April 22 meeting:** Mr. LePage explained that the annual town budget meeting will take place on that night. He suggested that the commission meet on **April 21** instead that week. Motion by Ms. Egan, second by Ms. Tschinkel to change the meeting date to April 21. Vote: Unanimous approval.

**6. Review Status of Commission/ Timelines / Future meeting topics.** Mr. LePage distributed a packet to each member that provided a review of what the commission has done so far. The commission reviewed each article of the charter

6A. Regarding the timeline, Mr. Soby suggested that the revisions should be ready for the 2016 ballot rather than 2015. That allows more time to complete work and create awareness of the potential changes.

6B. There was extensive discussion of Article X.

C. 1001, Town Meeting. B. 2 and B 3: Mr. Soby suggested that 2% to 5% would be more workable. More research will be done before the commission considers suggesting a change to B4, B.5 or B.6.

6C. The commission discussed inviting the town departments to come to a meeting and give feedback regarding how the charter affects them. Mr. LePage will send out an email

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to all department heads and request a written response or attendance at a meeting, beginning March 11.

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6 D. The commission divided the ordinances and each member will review those ordinances assigned and be prepared to report on them on March 25<sup>th</sup>.

**7. Citizen comments.** None.

**8. Adjournment.** Motion to adjourn by M. Egan. Second by U. Tschinkel. Vote: Unanimous consent. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Wagner, Secretary